

Dear State Director:

You are invited to compete for a 2003 Team Nutrition (TN) Training Grant. TN Training Grants are one of the anchor delivery systems for supporting the implementation of the Department of Agriculture (USDA) nutrition requirements and the *Dietary Guidelines for Americans* in Child Nutrition (CN) Program meals. TN Grants offer funding to State agencies that administer the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and/or the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP).

State agencies that administer the NSLP or the CACFP are eligible to apply for a TN Training Grant. Each State may submit only one application on behalf of all interested CN State agencies in that State. States may apply individually, as a coalition within a State, or may establish a network and apply as a coalition of States.

The 2003 TNT grants will support (1) President George W. Bush's HealthierUS Initiative (<http://www.healthierus.gov>) to promote a healthy lifestyle and, (2) the Surgeon General's Call to Action to Prevent and Decrease Overweight and Obesity--Recommendations for Schools (http://www.surgeongeneral.gov/topics/obesity/calltoaction/fact_adolescents.htm) using the TN's three behavior-focused strategies:

- Provide ***training and technical assistance*** to child nutrition food service professionals to enable them to prepare and serve nutritious meals that appeal to students.
- Promote ***nutrition curriculum and education*** in schools through multiple communication channels to reinforce positive nutrition messages and encourage students to make healthy food and physical activity choices as part of a healthy lifestyle.
- Build ***school and community support*** for creating healthy school environments that are conducive to healthy eating and physical activity.

The 2003 TN Training grants will be funded for the period of September 30, 2003, through September 30, 2005. The maximum amount of funding awarded to an individual State or a coalition within a State will be \$200,000; and up to \$500,000 of funding will be awarded for a coalition of at least three different States.

Critical Dates for 2003 TNT Grants

January 31, 2003 Request for Application package issued to State agencies

March 5, 2003 Intent to Submit an Application due to FNS

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| April 23, 2003 | Applications due to FNS by 5:00 pm EST |
| July 2003 | TN Training Grants Awards announced |
| September 30, 2003 | TN Training Grants in place and funds available |

Any questions regarding the Request for Applications should be directed to Diane Kriviski, Grants Management Division, at 703-305-2049.

Sincerely,

STANLEY C. GARNETT
Director
Child Nutrition Division

LAEL LUBING
Director
Grants Management Division

Enclosures

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